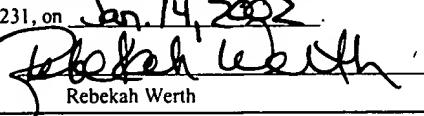


PATENT
Docket No. 355742104100

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Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on Jan. 14, 2002


Rebekah Werth

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Kirti DAVE, et al.

Serial No.: 09/505,898

Filing Date: February 17, 2000

For: RAPID ASSAY FOR ARTHROPOD-BORNE DISEASE VECTORS AND PATHOGENS

Examiner: U. Winkler

Group Art Unit: 1648

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The Applicant's greatly appreciate the Examiner's granting an interview and discussing the outstanding issues in connection with the above-identified application on December 5, 2001. This Amendment summarizes the various issues discussed in the December 5, 2001 interview and is in response to the Office Action dated September 13, 2001 in connection with the above identified application. A response to the September 13, 2001 Office Action was due December 13, 2001. A request for an extension of time of one (1) month until February 13, 2002 is made herein and accompanied by the required fee.. The pending claim 44 was rejected. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection and the following Amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Enclosed is the following Exhibit A:

Exhibit A: Marked-up Version of Amendments to the Claims.